



## NEDC Response to Treaty Powers

The NEDC has a number of responsibilities in respect to the implementation of the Treaty Powers. These responsibilities include the protection of Treaty members from the actions of other First Nations, and the protection of Treaty members from the actions of the Canadian government.

The NEDC supports the recommendations made by First Nations, but only if they are put forward as a whole. NEDC has taken a stand of collective action, and the recommendations are accepted.

In section 77(1) of the Constitution Act, a provision can be found that states that the federal government can make laws in respect to the protection of the Treaty Rights of First Nations.

### Conclusion

First Nations have been given the power to make their own laws.

### You may be contacted

For further information, please contact either Treatyany@nordc.ca or 1-877-333-3333.

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# Northern Developments

Spring 2000

## Congratulations!

Allen Geary has been appointed NADC's Director of Projects and Research. Al, an NADC staff member since 1990, has extensive background in a wide range of northern issues, particularly in telecommunications, infrastructure and agriculture. Council members and staff look forward to working with Al in his new position.

## Bidding Farewell

NADC extends its appreciation to three members soon leaving the council. Don Erno and Floyd Thompson are retiring after four years participation on the board, and Alvin Billings has resigned. Don made significant contributions in identifying agriculture issues, especially value-added opportunities. Floyd played a key role as a member of the Bursary Selection Committee. Board replacements will be announced this spring.

## Challenge North, Planning for Progress

March 29 – 31, 2000

Grande Prairie, Alberta

*Join community, industry, education and government leaders in the discussion of your future. Find out how the north has grown and what its potential is for tomorrow!*

"This conference attempts to pull in all leaders from across the regions and solidify major concerns," says NADC council member Ernie Isley, speaking of the upcoming Challenge North, Planning for Progress, conference. "We have to realize that northern Alberta is a gem . . . but also has unique needs that people in the south have to recognize."

Council member Don Erno agrees. "We are providing significant revenues to the balance of the province," he says. "We hope the conference will create an awareness that the north needs to take development to the next stage. Our economy now encompasses primary resources but we need to take it through the next steps for growth; we have to encourage dollars to come north."

At the conference, keynote speaker Russell Carr, a consultant in public policy and management, will describe demographic, economic and social issues that affect the north. Hear Dr. Michael Percy, dean of the faculty of business at the University of Alberta, discuss key economic trends. Then take in food for thought on environmental influences presented by Dr Patrick Moore, Elaine McCoy and Pierre Alvares. You too will have your say in small group discussions.

- FIND OUT about industry trends
- SHARE your ideas on development
- PARTICIPATE in your future . . .

### Register soon!

For more information, call (780) 624-6274, or e-mail [council@nadc.gov.ab.ca](mailto:council@nadc.gov.ab.ca) or register on the Web at [www.gov.ab.ca/nadc/](http://www.gov.ab.ca/nadc/)

## You can do it too! Role Modelling Shows Northern Students How to Succeed

Not long ago, over two hundred young people assembled in Fort Chipewyan from the town itself, Fort Smith, Anzac, Fort Mackay and Fort McMurray for Career Days 2000. Sponsored by the Northern LINKS program, the event featured former residents whose efforts to further their education have secured them satisfying lives and careers. Stories told by these role models—a professor of sociology, business person, lawyer, educators, health professionals and tradespeople—demonstrated to the audience of these far-flung communities that if they want it, they can get it!

Just one of 30 projects funded by the Northern LINKS program, Career Days 2000 was an overwhelming success. The program was established in 1999 to help students effectively make the transition from high school to post-secondary institutions. Other Northern LINKS projects approved during its first year of operation include the creation of liaison and career counselling positions, high school tours to post-secondary institutions and the establishment of mentorship programs.

The Northern LINKS brochure and application form have been distributed to potential service providers. If you were missed or would like more information, please contact Trev Ruberry at 780-624-6276 or visit our website at:

**[www.northernlinks.htm](http://www.northernlinks.htm)**

Funding for Northern LINKS services to the end of January 2000 amounts to over \$300,000. Services are delivered by northern community groups, colleges and schools.

## NADC Welcomes German Ambassador

NADC is stepping up its involvement with international representatives, hoping to spur on investment from beyond Canada's borders.

In November 1999, NADC council member Art Avery and executive director Tom Baldwin met with Dr. Juergen Poehlmann, Germany's ambassador to Canada. "The ambassador was very well versed on northern Alberta and in particular on the Fort McMurray region. He was interested in investment, especially in equipment for the tar sands operations," Avery said. "He also saw room to expand tourism opportunities for German visitors, who enjoy northern parks and hunting."

NADC anticipates future profitable meetings with the ambassador.

## Conference Set to Help HR Managers

**May 16 – 18, 2000 - Peace River**

What are the human resource management issues in northern Alberta and how can they be addressed?

—Plan to attend the Northern Alberta Human Resources Management Conference and find out!

### Is this conference for you?

If you provide the human resources function in a small business, or in a larger private or public employer, you'll want to join fellow HR personnel, learn from widely regarded HR experts and exchange ideas at the first northern human resources conference.

### Who will be there?

Hear keynote speaker Cathy Slater, vice-president of the Grande Prairie/Grande Cache division of Weyerhaeuser, discuss her experiences working in different communities. Originally from Texas, Slater concludes that similar challenges arise everywhere and suggests common solutions businesses can successfully adopt.

Dr. Michael Percy, dean of the faculty of business at the University of Alberta, will contribute facts, figures and trends in northern Alberta and talk about the region's similarity with other areas in Canada, as well as its uniqueness. And don't miss hot tips from Kelly Smith of Franklin Covey, the internationally renowned training and development firm!

**For more information**, contact NADC: Audrey DeWit at 624-6274

### Here's How to Reach Us

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